



# NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

[www.sbcounty.gov/Biane](http://www.sbcounty.gov/Biane)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Raised Median Aims to Curb Illegal Street Racing**

**SAN BERNARDINO** - A road median project approved by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday aims to eliminate illegal street racing at a popular race site in unincorporated Fontana.

Board Chairman Paul Biane began looking for ways to stop illegal street racing on Commerce Drive between Valley and San Bernardino avenues after nearby businesses reported persistent graffiti and landscape damage caused by racers and those gathered to watch the illegal competitions.

Speed humps were considered but were rejected as a solution because they would slow down emergency vehicles as well as traffic entering Commerce Drive from Interstate 10. After consulting with the California Highway Patrol, a raised median was proposed because a concrete "island" will leave racers with little room to stage and race.

"We are squeezing the racers out by narrowing the road, and we're doing it without slowing down regular traffic," Biane said.

Typically during the illegal races, cars parks along both sides of Commerce Drive, which is just over a quarter of a mile long and is about seven lane-widths wide. Racers compete near the center of the road. They also take advantage of the wide road by doing “spin outs” and “burn outs” in the center.

Biane urged people involved in illegal street racing to participate in legal races at the Auto Club Dragway, located just a few miles from Commerce Drive at the California Speedway. The Auto Club Dragway can be reached at (909) 429-5060.

Construction of the median is scheduled to begin in late February or early March. The project will cost \$208,534. The Speedway Redevelopment Area is contributing \$125,000.